



Preparing students to read like scientists: working with content-based and authentic informational text in grades K-6

The Utah Core Standards for grades K-6 include standards for science and social studies. In order for students to access this content, they need to have high-quality and rigorous reading that is also grade-aligned and grade-appropriate. Teachers need access to a variety of readings and support to help students access the content based on the specific literacy needs of each discipline.

Over the next two years (2013-2015), Utah will create an open source text book aligned with the Standards and objectives for science in grades K-6. The articles, reports, graphs, charts, and illustrations will tie to the content Standards and be grade appropriate. Materials will be found, open resources or created, open resources. Literacy strategies and student tools will be include as a guide for teachers to develop essential reading, thinking, and writing skills that will benefit students as they progress in school and increase the complexity of their discipline-specific reading.

Literacy objectives to support content area study will include:

- Understanding the craft and structure of a text
- Identifying the author's intent
- Being aware of the source and/or the bias of the author
- Identifying and arguing with the author's claims
- Reading with accuracy and purpose (close reading)
- Being able to summarize effectively
- Making connections to text and graphs, pictures, and illustrations
- Being able to interpret and translate forms of text (graphs to text, text graphs)

The project will begin in 2013-2014 with materials for grades 3-6 and continue in 2014-2015 to address grades K-2. Materials will be available for LEAs on the USOE and UEN websites.